

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Twice Amended): A process for producing 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene from a feedstock, comprising the following steps:

- I. separating said feedstock into [a] naphthalene, [monoalkynaphthalene] monoalkynaphthalene, and dialkylnaphthalene fractions:
- II. separating and purifying 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene from said [dialkylnaphthalene] dialkylnaphthalene fraction of step I to produce 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene and a second dialkylnaphthalene fraction;
- III. alkylating said monoalkynaphthalene fraction of step I with an alkylating agent to produce dialkylnaphthalene and recycling the dialkylnaphthalene to step I;
- IV. transalkylating said naphthalene fraction of step I and said second dialkylnaphthalene fraction produced in step II, to produce [monoalkynaphthalene] monoalkynaphthalene, and isomers of dialkylnaphthalene; wherein said [monoalkynaphthalene] monoalkynaphthalene fraction produced in step I is cracked before step III, or in step III, or after step III.

Claim 3 (Twice Amended): The process of claim 2, further comprising cracking of said second dialkylnaphthalene fraction and said naphthalene [fractions] fraction before step IV, or in step IV, or after step IV.

Claim 15 (Twice Amended): The process of claim 1, wherein a part of said [dialkylnaphthalene] dialkylnaphthalene fraction after 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene is separated therefrom in step II are dealkylated, then recycled to step I.

Claim 20 (Twice Amended): A process of preparing a polyethylenenaphthalate polymer or polybutylenenaphthalate polymer comprising [;] :

A. oxidizing 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene to form 2,6-naphthalene-dicarboxylic acid; and
B. condensing said 2,6-naphthalene-dicarboxylic acid with a diol selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol and butanediol to form a polyethylenenaphthalate polymer or [polybutyrenenaphthalate] polybutylenenaphthalate polymer

wherein said 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene is produced by a process comprising the following steps:

I. separating a feedstock into [a] naphthalene, [monoalkynaphthalene] monoalkylnaphthalene, and dialkylnaphthalene fractions [;];

II. separating and purifying 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene from said [dialkylnaphthalene] dialkylnaphthalene fraction of step I to produce 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene and a second dialkylnaphthalene fraction;

III. alkylating said monoalkylnaphthalene fraction of step I with an alkylating agent to produce dialkylnaphthalene;

IV. transalkylating said naphthalene fraction of step I and said second dialkylnaphthalene fraction produced in step II, to produce monoalkylnaphthalene, and isomers of dialkylnaphthalene; wherein

said [monoalkynaphthalene] monoalkylnaphthalene fraction produced in step I is cracked before step III, or in step III, or after step III.